Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company Docket Nos. D.T.E. 02-24

Attorney General's Second Set of Document and Information Requests

Request No. AG 2-9:

Please explain how the billing split between months was determined for each month. Include all worksheets that show the derivation of the splits and all supporting workpapers, calculations, documentation and assumptions.

Response:

The billing splits between months were derived mathematically, as shown on pages 209 to 215 of the Workpapers Supporting Schedule JLH-5 (Gas) in Schedule JLH-8 (Gas). Starting with the cycle read dates for each of the Company's 22 billing cycles for the 13 months comprising the billing period included in the test year, the Company provided the number of customer billed by class in each cycle. From this information and the daily weather data, MAC computed the actual degree days in each billing cycle as well as the normal number of degree days expected in each billing cycle of each month. Then MAC computed weighted averages for each rate class based on the distribution of customers by class billed in each cycle. MAC computed the number of calendar month days occurring in each billing cycle. Again the weighted average was computed by class to determine percentage of days for each billing cycle occurring in the current month. Again a weighted average was computed for each class. Next the number of degree days from the current month was determined for each billing cycle and then a weighted average computed by class. As a final step, the knowledge of the percentage of the billing cycle's days and degree days in the current calendar month were combined to derive the estimated sales percentage billed in the current month. This information was provided electronically in response to AG 2-5 (Gas). In particular, the "Cumulative DD" tab of file Fitchburg_01_DD.xls (provided in response to AG 2-5 (Gas)) shows the cumulative degree days beginning December 1, 2000 and continuing through January 1, 2002. Furthermore, it shows the meter read dates and all of the computed statistics just described.

Person Responsible: James L. Harrison